

PATENT APPLICATION  
09/116,589 (Q51098)

Applicant thanks the Examiner for withdrawing the rejection of claims 28-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Discussion of the art rejections:

*The rejection of claims 28 and 62*

In response to the previous rejection of claim 28 as being unpatentable over Kawazoe et al, claim 28 was amended to include a step of “filtering *higher order* diffracted light from reflecting back to said photosensitive material.” In response to the Amendment, the Examiner has applied the new Hopwood reference. The Examiner reasons that Kawazoe et al use black paint 2263 (Fig. 39) to absorb unwanted orders of light to prevent them from reflecting back to the recording medium, and Hopwood teaches use of a dichroic filter interposed between the hologram and the photosensitive holographic material to eliminate unwanted orders of diffracted light. From this, the Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious “to use the appropriate filtering means to prevent the unwanted orders of diffracted light to enter the photosensitive holographic material for the benefit of eliminating the unwanted noise holograms being recorded.”

Applicant respectfully submits that the invention of claim 28 is not rendered obvious by Kawazoe et al and Hopwood, taken either alone or in combination, at least because these references commonly fail to teach or suggest a method which includes filtering higher order diffracted light from reflecting back to a photosensitive material.

In more detail, claim 28 specifies filtering *higher order* diffracted light from reflecting back to a photosensitive material, while each of the references discloses preventing *zero order* light from reflecting back to recording photosensitive material. Neither of the references teaches or suggests filtering higher order diffracted light from reflecting back to the photosensitive material. The Examiner has simply concluded that since the references disclose preventing zero order diffracted light from reflecting back to the photosensitive material, filtering *any* light from reflecting back to the photosensitive material would have been obvious. However, zero order